

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY


PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

REC'D 30 AUG 2005

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PSIC077WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/007028		International filing date (day/month/year) 29.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 03.07.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B41M3/14, B41M1/42, B41C1/04, B42D15/00				
Applicant SICPA HOLDING S.A. et al.				
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>				
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>				
Date of submission of the demand 15.01.2005		Date of completion of this report 29.08.2005		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized Officer Patosuo, S Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8099		



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
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International application No.
PCT/EP2004/007028

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-22 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-21 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/7-7/7 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-21
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-21
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-21
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Re Item V

1. Novelty

- 1.1 The document WO 02/090002 A (FLEX PRODUCTS, INC) (D1) is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows a production of a patterned surface on a substrate through orientation of magnetizable particles in a coating composition by applying a magnetic field. Said magnetic field may be provided by a previously applied magnetic printed image layer, or by an applied external magnetic source (D1: page 5, lines 23-33; page 7, lines 18-32).

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from the disclosure of D1 in that the magnetic field is applied by a body of a permanent-magnetic material, where the surface of said permanent-magnetic body carries indicia in the form of engravings, causing perturbations of its magnetic field and said body is either a flat plate or a cylindrically curved plate.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

- 1.2 The same reasoning applies, *mutatis mutandis*, to the subject-matter of the independent claims 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19.

2. Inventive Step

- 2.1 The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as to obtain a customer-specific high-resolution magnetic design on the printed article in an easy-to-implement and highly reliable way.

The solution to this problem proposed in claims 1, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

As explained in the description (pages 9 to 11) the magnetic field created with the device according to present claim 1 is sharper than the one disclosed in D1, thus the device known from prior art is not capable of transferring sharp magnetic images, such as text or drawings required for bank notes and the like. Neither D1 nor any of the available citations of their combinations disclose or suggest the combination of the features of claims 1, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19.

- 2.2 Claims 2-6, 9-15, 20, and 21 are dependent on claims 1, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 and as

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such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.